

DC Supplemental Security Income



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The District's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program helps DC residents with very low-income by giving them money each month.

SSI ELIGIBILITY:

Older adults must be a DC resident, and age 65 or older to be eligible. Some residents with disabilities also qualify even if they are younger than 65. To qualify, your income must be less than a certain amount set by the US government each year. The 2019 individual amount is \$771 per month. You can check for changes at www.ssa.gov/oact/cola/SSI.html.

HOW MUCH MONEY CAN I RECEIVE?

The purpose of SSI is to raise your income up to a certain amount. In 2019, this amount was \$771 per month. The amount of money you will receive depends on your current income.

For example, consider Ann. Ann is a single older adult. She receives \$700 per month from a small pension. Because this amount is \$71 less than \$771, SSI would pay her \$71 per month.

HOW DO I APPLY?

To apply, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. Some adults younger than 65 may also apply online at www.ssa.gov.

SSI IS NOT:

- ▶ **DISABILITY INCOME:** Some people who get SSI have disabilities. Some do not. Often people confuse SSI with disability income (SSDI). However, SSDI payments are generally higher than SSI. To qualify for SSDI, you must have worked a certain amount of time before applying. People who apply for SSI don't need to have work histories. To get SSI and SSDI at the same time, your total income must be less than \$771 per month.
- ▶ **SOCIAL SECURITY:** Some people confuse SSI for Social Security. Social Security also pays money to older adults. However, these payments generally are higher than SSI payments. To qualify, an older adult must have worked at least 10 years in the US. People who apply for SSI don't need to have work histories. To get SSI and Social Security at the same time, your total income must be less than \$771 per month.

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